Journey CHURCH Pastor James Greer Iames@jcpineville.com www.jcpineville.com

Time to Dream- Leader Guide Session 4: The Door to Abundant Blessing

Checking In:

- 1. What did you learn about yourself when you explored your SHAPE this past week?
- 2. What does generosity mean and look like to you?

Key Verse

"Just as you excel in everything--- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness, and in your love for us--- see that you also excel in this grace of living."

2 Corinthians 8:7 (NIV)

Seven Biblical Promises about Generosity

1. God promises _____

"Good will come in him who is generous."

"The generous will themselves be blessed."

2. God promises _____

"[The Godly] are always generous and . . . their children will be blessed."

Psalm 37:26 (NIV)

Psalm 11:2-5 (NIV)

Proverbs 22:9 (NIV)

3. God promises ______

"Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income. Then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

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"A generous man will prosper, and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

4. God promises _____

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger. The world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller."

Proverbs 11:24 (The Message)

5. God promises _____

"You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.'"

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

"God will generously provide all you need, so that in all things at all times, you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others."

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NLT/NIV)

6. God promises ______

"And God, who supplies seed to sow and bread to eat, will also supply you with all the seed you need and will make it grow and produce a rich harvest from your generosity. He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times."

2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (GNB)

Giving is not ______

lt's a _____

"Whoever sows sparingly, will also reap sparingly, and whoever sow generously, will also reap generously."

2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)

"Be generous, and someday you will be rewarded."

Ecclesiastes 11:1 (CEV)

7. God promises _____

"Use [your] money to do good . . . and give happily to those in need, always be ready to share with others whatever God has given [you]. By doing this [you] will be storing up real treasure for [yourselves] in heaven---- it is the only safe investment for eternity."

1 Timothy 6:18-19 (TLB)

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"Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. In this way, your generosity stores up a reward for you in heaven."

Luke 16:9 (NLT)

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives."

Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB)

"You people are robbing me, your God. And, here you are, asking, "How are we robbing you?" You are robbing me of the offerings and of the ten percent that belongs to me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Malachi 3:8-10 (CEV/NIV)

Discovery Questions

- 1. Share a story about how God has blessed you though somebody else's generosity."
- 2. Which of the seven promises about generosity is the most meaningful to you right now? Why?"
- 3. Which of the seven promises about generosity is the most challenging for you? Why?
- 4. What are some ways you can live more generously?